

COUNCIL MOTION

24 JANUARY 2019

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Dawson

SECONDED BY: Councillor TBC

IMPACT OF UNIVERSAL CREDIT

This Council notes that while the principle of having some form of 'Universal Credit' system in bringing all benefits and 'tax credits' together within one process has been supported by all major political parties, both in government and outside of government, the introduction and implementation of this benefit system to date has been severely flawed in a way which has impacted greatly upon some of the poorest and most vulnerable individuals.

This Council welcomes the recent decision in the High Court demonstrating that the DWP have not been following their own rules in bringing in this Benefit and calls upon the government to take urgent steps to solve these highlighted problems, and other problems which have been identified during the implementation and piloting process, and to apply the benefit universally to all claimants and their children fairly and equally in a way which does not impoverish people.

Council welcomes the recent public statement by Amber Rudd, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, indicating that she wishes to make the operation of Universal Credit fairer and calls on the government to work across party, particularly with the members of the House of Commons Select Committee on Work & Pensions, to bring about necessary changes in Universal Credit as soon as is conceivably possible.